

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of automatic execution of an application on a receiving station, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a signal comprising a plurality of streams, each stream being associated with a channel on the receiving station and comprising a content portion and zero or more application portions;

receiving a channel selection from a user;

displaying the content portion of the stream associated with the selected channel; and

when execution of applications is enabled, executing an application present in the application portion, if any, of the stream associated with the selected channel, characterized in that the method further comprises the steps of:

disabling execution of the application of the stream associated with the channel in response to the user selecting the channel; and

enabling execution of the application of the stream associated with the channel in response to the occurrence of an enabling event indicating that the user is actively viewing the selected channel.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a timer is reset in response to any user interaction with the receiving station, and the enabling event comprises the timer reaching a predetermined timeout value.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the enabling event comprises the erasing of an on-screen display element from a display system.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the on-screen display element is an identifier for the current channel.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the on-screen display element is the last of a plurality of on-screen display elements being displayed.

6. (Previously Presented) A receiving station comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving a signal comprising a plurality of streams, each stream being associated with a channel on the receiving station and comprising a content portion and zero or more application portions;

a selection unit for receiving a channel selection from a user;

a display control unit for displaying the content portion of the stream associated with the selected channel; and

an execution unit for determining if execution of applications is enabled, and if so, executing an application present in the application portion, if any, of the stream associated with the selected channel,

characterized in that

the execution unit disables execution of the application of the stream associated with the channel in response to the user

selecting the channel, and

the execution unit enables execution of the application of the stream associated with the channel in response to the occurrence of an enabling event indicating that the user is actively viewing the selected channel.

7. (Previously Presented) The receiving station as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the receiving station further comprises a timer arranged to be reset in response to any user interaction with the receiving station, and the enabling event comprises the timer reaching a predetermined timeout value.

8. (Previously Presented) The receiving station as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the receiving station further comprises an on-screen display unit, and the enabling event comprises the on-screen display unit erasing an on-screen display element from a display system.

9. (Previously Presented) The receiving station as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the on-screen display element is an

identifier for the current channel.

10. (Previously Presented) The receiving station as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the on-screen display element is the last of a plurality of on-screen display elements being displayed by the on-screen display unit.

11. (Previously Presented) A method comprising the steps of:
receiving a signal at a receiving station, the signal comprising a plurality of streams, a plurality of the streams each being associated with a different respective channel of the receiving station, one or more streams comprising respective content portions and one or more streams comprising a respective application portions;

receiving user input of a channel selection;

displaying the content portion, if any, of the stream associated with the selected channel; and

depending on a period of time without user input following the channel selection, executing an application present in the application portion, if any, of the stream associated with the

selected channel.

12. (Previously Presented) A receiving station comprising
a receiving unit for receiving a signal comprising a plurality of streams, a plurality of streams each being associated with a channel of the receiving station, one or more of the streams each comprising a different respective content portion, one or more of the streams each comprising a different respective application portion;

a selection unit for receiving user input including a channel selection;

a display control unit for displaying the content portion of the stream, if any, associated with the selected channel; and

an execution unit for executing an application present in the application portion, if any, of the stream associated with the selected channel, depending on a period of time without user input following the channel selection.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein execution of all applications is disabled in response to

the user selecting the channel.

14. (Previously Presented) The receiving station as claimed in claim 6, wherein the execution unit disables execution of all applications in response to the user selecting the channel.